

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 TEL AV 01156 260806Z
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AGRE-00 TRSE-00 AID-05 EB-08
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /038 W
-----023030 261834Z /46
R 251411Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 832

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TEL AVIV 1156

PASS AGRICULTURE FOR QUENTIN WEST

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TGEN, IS, EAGR
SUBJECT: US-ISRAEL AGRICULTURAL R&D FUND (ARD)

REF: STATE 009731

1. EMBASSY WELCOMES OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE
IN ESTABLISHMENT OF ARD AND, HOPEFULLY, WE WILL PROFIT
FROM LESSONS PAINFULLY LEARNED IN ESTABLISHMENT OF BIRDF.
2. ISRAELI PRESSURE TO GET STARTED WITH BIRDF HAS CAUSED
A NUMBER OF PROBLEMS WHICH COULD HAVE BEEN AVOIDED BY EARLY
AGREEMENT ON PROPER PRIORITIES. TO AVOID REPETITION OF
SUCH DIFFICULTIES, EMBASSY STRONGLY RECOMMENDS U.S.
RESISTANCE TO ISRAELI SUGGESTIONS FOR ARBITRARY CALENDER
DEADLINES IN FAVOR OF FUNCTIONAL DEADLINES FOR ARD.
THUS, IN LIEU OF "FIRST PROPOSALS SUBMITTED BY SEPTEMBER 1978"
(REFTEL PARA 4), WE RECOMMEND "FIRST PROPOSALS SUBMITTED
AS SOON AS (A) GUIDELINES FOR GRANT AWARDS ARE DRAFTED
AND APPROVED BY BOTH GOVERNMENTS AND (B) EXECUTIVE OFFICER
PLUS ANY REQUIRED STAFF ARE HIRED AND MECHANISM IS IN PLACE
FOR EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS." IN LIKE MANNER, WE SUGGEST
REJECTION OF ISRAELI PROPOSAL TO HAVE "FIRST PROJECT
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 TEL AV 01156 260806Z

OPERATING BY JANUARY 1, 1979" IN FAVOR OF "FIRST PROJECT
OPERATING AFTER EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS AND GRANT AWARDS
HAVE BEEN COMPLETED IN ACCORDANCE WITH AGREED GUIDELINES
AND REGULATIONS."

3. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT, REGARDLESS OF WHEN US FUNDS
BECOME AVAILABLE (REFTEL PARA 1), NO PAYMENT BE MADE INTO

ARD FUND UNTIL ARD IS PREPARED IMMEDIATELY TO INVEST THE MONEY. IF ARD FINANCIAL PROVISIONS ARE LIKE BIRDF, IMMEDIATE INVESTMENT WILL EARN SIGNIFICANTLY MORE INTEREST THAN BANK OF ISRAEL WILL PAY. DIFFERENCE IN INTEREST WAS LOST TO BIRDF FOR MANY MONTHS BECAUSE NO BIRDF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HAD BEEN HIRED AND BIRDF AGREEMENT SPECIFIED THAT ONLY EXDIR COULD INVEST BIRDF FUNDS.

4. ISSUE OF U.S. VERSUS ISRAELI CITIZEN TO DIRECT OPERATION OF BIRDF SHOULD NOT BE DECIDED ON BASIS OF COST. DR. ZEEV ROTEM, ISRAELI EXDIR OF BSF HAS BEEN VERY EFFECTIVE IN EVALUATING SMALL GRANTS FOR BASIC AND APPLIED SCIENCE, BUT THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF BIRDF, WHO EVALUATES APPLICATIONS FOR MUCH LARGER GRANTS FROM MAJOR ISRAELI CORPORATIONS MUST, IN OUR VIEW, BE A U.S. CITIZEN. ARD WOULD PRESUMABLY FALL BETWEEN THESE TWO, FUNCTIONALLY, AND EMBASSY RESERVES JUDGEMENT ON CITIZENSHIP OF EXECUTIVE OFFICER PENDING FULLER UNDERSTANDING OF ARD OPERATIONS. WE ALSO RESERVE JUDGEMENT ON POLICY COMMITTEE AND EXPERT COMMITTEE UNTIL WE LEARN THEIR FUNCTIONS.

5. AGATT WILLING TO WORK WITH MINAG CHIEF SCIENTIST VAADIA ON DEVELOPING SIMPLIFIED IMPLEMENTING MECHANISM FOR ARD. MECHANISM AS OUTLINED PARA 2 REFTEL SEEMS CUMBERSOME. IN ORDER TO DO EFFECTIVE JOF OF SIMPLIFYING, HOWEVER, WE MUST HAVE USDA THOUGHTS ON ROLE AND DUTIES OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 TEL AV 01156 260806Z

EX OFF AS MENTIONED PARA 4 OF THIS TELEGRAM. WE ALSO NEED COPIES OF ALL PERTINENT DOCUMENTS (E.E. MEMCONS, DRAFTS OF REGULATIONS AND GUIDELINES, ETC.) VAADIA WILL BE OUT OF ISRAEL TILL MID-FEB ON OVERSEAS TRIP.
LEWIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TELAV01156
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780039-0400
Format: TEL
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780122/aaaaasll.tel
Line Count: 99
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 904e09e0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: 78 STATE 9731
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3713860
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-ISRAEL AGRICULTURAL R&D FUND (ARD)
TAGS: TGEN, EAGR, IS, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/904e09e0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014